**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in this application.

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for retaining model structural members in position during construction of a model structure, comprising:

a base member having a plurality of recesses therein; and

at least one one-piece retainer having an integrally connected peg, flange, lobe and handle, said [a] peg having a first transverse dimension complementally sized with said recesses for removable receipt therein, [and a] said flange having a second transverse dimension greater than the first transverse dimension and sized for holding a model structural member between the base member and the flange, said lobe positioned between the flange and the peg, said lobe having a greater cross-sectional area than the peg to resist entry into a recess of the base member and having a transverse dimension which is smaller than the second transverse dimension of the flange whereby a model structural member may be held between the flange and the base member by the retainer, and said handle extending from the flange opposite said peg, wherein said peg is sized and configured for pivoting within said recesses and for frictional engagement with the base member surrounding said recesses, said retainer being formed as a unitary member whereby turning of the handle causes the retainer

to pivot about the peg as a whole when the peg is received within one of said recesses and the frictional engagement with the base member resists such pivoting when the handle is not turned.

2. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the base member is substantially planar.

3. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein the recesses are holes extending through the base member.

4. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1, including a multiplicity of said recesses arranged in a plurality of rows and columns.

5. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 4, wherein the spacing between adjacent recesses in said rows and in said columns is substantially constant.

6. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein said base member is constructed of a synthetic resin material.

7. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1, including a carrier removably mounting said base member thereon.

8. (Currently amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 7, wherein said carrier includes a pair of side rails, said base member being sized for ~~slibable~~ slidable receipt between said side rails.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 1, wherein said ~~retainer~~ lobe includes a ~~lobe having a~~ circumscribing engagement surface ~~and~~ positioned intermediate said peg and said flange.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 11, wherein said engagement surface is eccentrically positioned relative to said peg.

13. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 12, wherein said lobe is substantially circular having a center axis, and wherein said peg is circular in cross section and has a pivot axis spaced from said center axis.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim [15] 1, further including at least one model structural member having a thickness, said engagement surface of said lobe having a height between the flange and the peg substantially corresponding to the thickness of the model structural member.

17. (Currently amended) An apparatus as set forth in claim 16, further including a clip having a frame including a plurality of edges oriented at least at two acute angles and including an arm on the frame sized for holding the model structural member against at least one of the edges.

18. (Currently amended) An apparatus ~~as set forth in claim 17~~ for retaining model structural members in position during construction of a model structure, comprising:

a base member having a plurality of recesses therein;

at least one retainer having a peg having a first transverse dimension complementally sized with said recesses for removable receipt therein and a flange having a second transverse dimension greater than the first transverse dimension and sized for holding a model structural member between the base member and the flange; and

a clip having a frame including a plurality of edges and including an arm on the frame sized for holding a model structural member against the edge, wherein said arm includes a shoulder extending outwardly from said frame and a finger spaced from one of said edges for receiving and holding a model structural member in a space located between the said one of said edges and said finger.

19. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 18, wherein said frame is substantially triangular in configuration.

20. (Original) An apparatus as set forth in claim 19, including a plurality of said clips, at least one of said plurality of clips having a first triangular configuration and at least another of said plurality of clips having a second triangular configuration different from said first triangular configuration.

21. (currently amended) A method of retaining model structural members during construction of a model structure, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a base member having a plurality of recesses therein, at least one retainer having a peg of a first transverse dimension complementally sized for receipt in said recesses [and] , a flange having a second transverse dimension substantially greater than said first transverse dimension, a lobe positioned between the flange and the peg, said lobe having a greater cross-sectional area than the peg to resist entry into a recess of the base member and having a transverse dimension which is smaller than the second transverse dimension of the flange, and a handle extending from the flange opposite said peg, said retainer being formed as a unitary member whereby turning of the handle causes the retainer to pivot about the peg when the peg is received within one of said recesses, and a plurality of model structural members;

~~coupling~~ holding a first of said plurality of model structural members [to] in contact with said base member using siad at least one retainer by inserting said peg of said at least one retainer into a recess proximate said model

structural member with at least a portion of said model structural member held by said flange against said base member; and

bonding a second one of said plurality of model structural members to said [one] first of said plurality of model structural members; and

curing the bond between the first and second structural members.

22. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 21, wherein said bonding is provided by adhesive.

23. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 21, including providing a clip having a frame including at least a first edge and a second edge and an arm extending from said frame and oriented for holding a model structural member against at least one of said edges, and including the step of attaching said clip to one of the first and second model structural members with one of the first and second model structural members aligned along the first edge and the other of the first and second model structural members aligned along the second edge.

24. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 23, including providing a second clip having a frame including at least a first edge and a second edge and an arm extending from said frame and oriented for holding a model structural member against at least one of said edges, and providing a third model structural member, and including the step of attaching said second clip to one of the first, second and third model structural members with two of the first, second and third model structural members aligned along respective first and second edges of said second clip.

25. (Original) A method as set forth in claim 21, including providing at least three of said retainers and wherein the first model structural member is flexible, and including the steps of bending said first model structural member into a curve and positioning said retainers on alternate first and second sides of said first model structural member with the pegs of said retainers received in different recesses for retaining the first model structural member between said base member and said retainers in a bent configuration, wherein said bonding and curing steps are carried out after the bending step.

26. (Currently amended) A method as set forth in claim 21, wherein said ~~retainer includes a~~ lobe ~~having~~ has a circumscribing engagement surface located between said flange and said peg, said engagement surface being eccentrically positioned relative to said peg, and including the step of turning said handle to thereby pivot ~~pivoting~~ said retainer with said peg in said one of said recesses for moving said engagement surface against said first model structural member.

27. (Currently amended) A one-piece retainer for holding model structural members to a member having a recess therein, said retainer having an integrally connected peg, flange, lobe and handle, said ~~including~~ a peg having a first transverse dimension, [a] said flange having a second transverse dimension larger than said first transverse dimension, said handle extending from said flange opposite from said peg, and [a] said lobe positioned intermediate said peg and said flange and having a third transverse dimension greater than said first transverse dimension and less than said second transverse dimension, said lobe including a circumscribing engagement surface which is positioned in eccentric relationship to said peg, wherein said retainer is molded of synthetic resin and of a unitary construction.

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) A retainer as set forth in claim [28] 27, wherein said lobe has a substantially circular engagement surface defining a center of the lobe and wherein said peg is offset relative to the center of the lobe.

30. (Cancelled)

31-35. (Cancelled)